

HIV among Men Who Have Sex with Men Nebraska 2018

This analysis is restricted to those meeting the CDC definition of men who have sex with men (MSM). This population continues to be significantly affected by HIV compared to other populations. Between 2014 and 2018, nearly 60% of all new HIV cases in Nebraska were MSM, including those who use injection drugs. Most MSM are exposed to HIV through unprotected sex. Factors that increase HIV risk among MSM include:

- Barriers to accessing PrEP
- Not utilizing condoms
- Anonymous sex partners
- Substance use, especially before or during sex
- Barriers to testing
- Lack of communication between sex partners about HIV status
- Co-infection with other sexually transmitted diseases

New HIV Cases*

Just under 50% of those with newly diagnosed with HIV in Nebraska report MSM as a risk factor. About 6% of these cases report injecting drugs, which

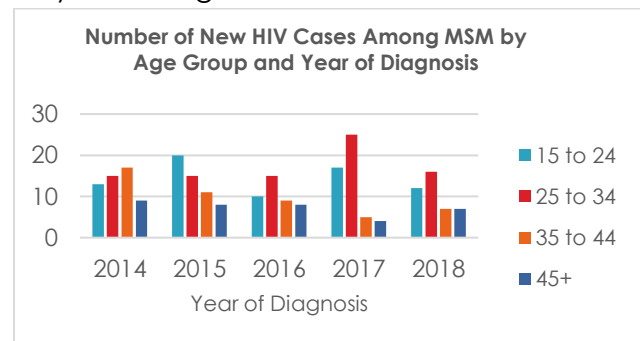
substantially increases the chances they will transmit HIV to someone else.

Table 1: New HIV Cases among MSM by year of diagnosis

Diagnosis Year	MSM Only (no.)	MSM/IDU (no.)	Total MSM (no.)	% of All New HIV Cases
2014	49	5	54	61
2015	52	2	54	67
2016	39	3	42	54
2017	49	2	51	58
2018	39	3	42	54

By Age

Most MSM cases are diagnosed before the age of 35. From 2014 to 2018, there was an increase in the number of MSM diagnosed between 15 and 34 years of age. However, in 2018, there was decrease in those age groups but it was still considerably higher than those over 35 years of age.

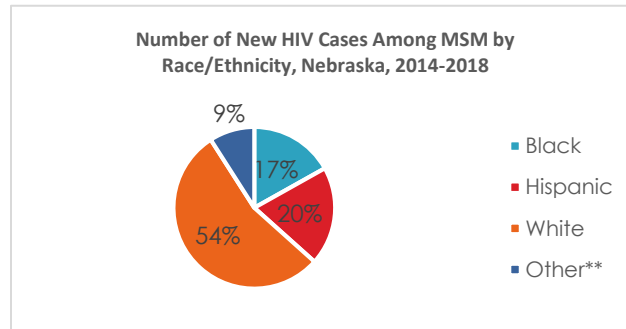


By Race and Hispanic Origin

Approximately 21% of Nebraska's population are non-white. However, over 45% of Nebraska's newly identified

*The term "new HIV cases" refers to all new diagnosis of HIV infection, with or without AIDS

HIV infections occur in minority populations. The proportion of newly identified HIV infections in minority populations have occurred at twice the proportion as the overall state population.



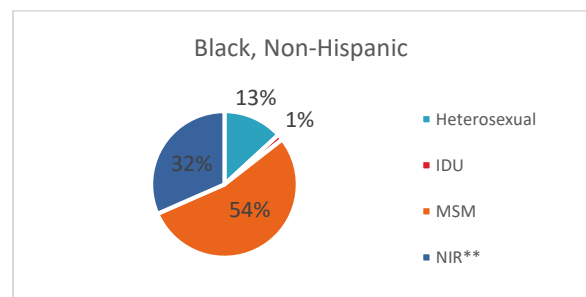
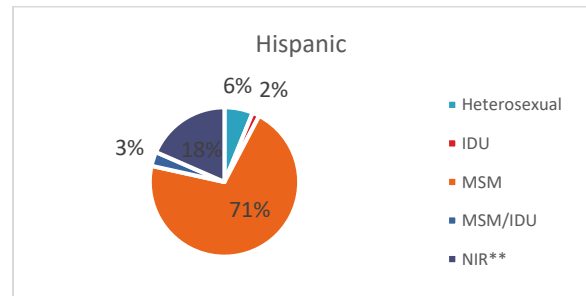
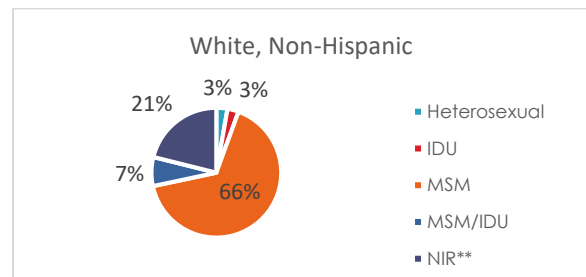
**other includes Asian, Native American, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Alaska Native, and multiracial

By Race/Ethnicity and HIV Exposure Category

Of the newly diagnosed HIV infections in Nebraska between 2014 and 2018, 73% of white, non-Hispanic males identified as MSM (MSM and MSM/IDU) compared to 55% for Black males. Hispanic males identified as MSM in 74% of the newly identified HIV cases.

The MSM population may experience homophobic stigma and discrimination which can lead to concealing their sexual orientation and identity. Many indicate fear of receiving a negative response from healthcare workers which can lead to not accessing services.

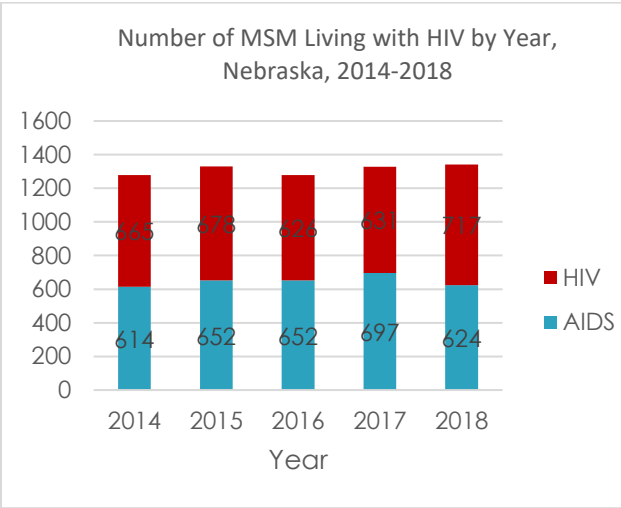
Percent of New HIV Cases Among Males by Exposure Category, 2014-2018



** NIR: People who do not have a risk identified. Every effort is made at the time of diagnosis to get a risk through interviews.

Living HIV Cases

As of December 31, 2018, there were 1,341 HIV positive MSM living in Nebraska. The number of MSM living with HIV increases roughly 1 to 2% each year. The proportion of people living with HIV and AIDS has changed slightly over the last five years.



Testing in Nebraska

HIV testing in Nebraska is available at all physician offices, hospitals, medical clinics and counseling and testing sites. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) Counseling and Testing Program has multiple federally funded HIV test sites located across Nebraska. At these test sites, the client has the option of testing anonymously (by number) or confidentially (by name). Testing at any other site is confidential only. To locate a counseling and testing site near you, go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/testing/index.html>.